Management and Health Calendar for a South Carolina Spring Calving Commercial Cowherd

BC-5003 – Revised: January, 1998

Dr. John C. Spitzer – Professor, Reproductive Physiology

January 8

Calving Begins - Heifers

Tag and/or tattoo calves at birth

Castrate male calves and implant with Ralgro (males only)

January 22

Calving Begins - Mature Cows

Tag and/or tattoo calves at birth

Castrate male calves and implant with Ralgro (males only)

February 1

Conduct Breeding Soundness Exam on herd bulls

Vaccinate herd bulls

Campylobacterosis

Leptospirosis (5-way)

Re-vaccinate virgin heifers

Campylobacterosis

Weigh heifers for yearling weight

April 1

Begin breeding - Virgin yearling heifers (45-day breeding season) - OPTIMUM

April 15

Begin breeding - Mature cows (65-day breeding season) - OPTIMUM

Vaccinate all calves

IBR and PI-3 (intranasal vaccine)

Leptospirosis (5-way)

Clostridial diseases (7-way Clostridia)

Dehorn calves needing procedure

Re-implant steer calves with Ralgro or Synovex-C

May 16

End breeding - Virgin yearling heifers (45-day breeding season) - OPTIMUM

June 20

End breeding - Mature cows (65-day breeding season) - OPTIMUM August 25

Preweaning Preparation

Re-vaccinate all calves

IBR and PI-3 (intranasal vaccine)

Leptospirosis (5-way)

Clostridial diseases (7-way Clostridia)

Weigh calves for weaning weight

September 15

Weaning

Vaccinate all calves

IBR, PI-3, BVD, BRSV (modified live intramuscular vaccine)

Inject all calves with Vitamin A-D-E

Implant all steers and cull heifer calves with growth promotant (if retaining)

Number brand replacement heifer calves

Treat all cows, bulls, heifers and calves with grubacide

Pregnancy test and cull open heifers and cows

December 1

Calving Begins - Heifers

Vaccinate all cows

Campylobacterosis

Leptospirosis (5-way)

NOTE - Cows in some areas may need 5-way Leptospirosis vaccine twice or more each year

Re-vaccinate virgin heifers

IBR, PI-3, BVD, BRSV (modified live intramuscular vaccine)

Campylobacterosis

Inject all bulls, cows and virgin heifers with Vitamin A-D-E

Other Management

Lice control program?

Internal parasite (worms) control program - cows - calves (consider mid-summer program)?

Precondition calves prior to marketing

Fly control program

Summer and winter mineral supplementation programs

Other Possible Vaccinations

Brucellosis (heifer calves only - less than 8-months-old)

Haemophilus somnus

Pasteurella multocida - Pasteurella haemolytica

For Additional Information Contact:

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